

In The Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A network conferencing system comprising:

- an output electronic equipment for presenting the contents of a presentation, a generating electronic equipment for generating the contents of the presentation to be presented by the output electronic equipment, a plurality of attendant electronic equipment, and a conference management server connected with the output electronic equipment and the attendant electronic equipment so as to transmit and receive information to and from the output electronic equipment and the attendant electronic equipment via a communication network,
- each of the attendant electronic equipment comprising:
 - an information input/output unit for inputting and outputting information from and to the other attendant electronic equipment and the output electronic equipment via the communication network,
 - a presentation unit for presenting the contents of the presentation by using the output electronic equipment,
 - a presentation contents browsing unit for browsing the contents of the presentation presented by the presentation unit of the other attendant electronic equipment using the output electronic equipment,
 - an authentication unit for carrying out authentication of attendance of the other attendant electronic equipment at a conference,
 - an equipment management unit for managing the state of each electronic equipment connected to the communication network,
 - a display for displaying, as icons, the other attendant electronic equipment with their attendance authenticated by the authentication unit and the electronic equipment managed by the equipment management unit, wherein the display has a separate area for icon display of the generating electronic equipment and an area for icon display of the output electronic equipment, thus providing the icon display of the generating electronic equipment and the icon display of the output electronic equipment, and
 - a proceedings control unit for obtaining information for preparing the proceedings by using the contents of the presentation presented by the presentation unit.

2. (Currently Amended) A network conferencing system comprising:

an output electronic equipment for presenting the contents of a presentation, a generating electronic equipment for generating the contents of the presentation to be presented by the output electronic equipment, a plurality of attendant electronic equipment, and a conference management server connected with the output electronic equipment and the attendant electronic equipment so as to transmit and receive information to and from the output electronic equipment and the attendant electronic equipment via a communication network,

each of the attendant electronic equipment-comprising:

an information input/output unit for inputting and outputting information from and to the other attendant electronic equipment and the output electronic equipment via the communication network,

a presentation unit for presenting the contents of the presentation by using the output electronic equipment,

a presentation contents browsing unit for browsing the contents of the presentation presented by the presentation unit of the other attendant electronic equipment using the output electronic equipment,

an authentication unit for carrying out authentication of attendance of the other attendant electronic equipment at a conference,

an equipment management unit for managing the state of each electronic equipment connected to the communication network,

a display unit for displaying, as icons, the other attendant electronic equipment with their attendance authenticated by the authentication unit and the electronic equipment managed by the equipment management unit, wherein the display unit has a separate area for icon display of the generating electronic equipment and an area for icon display of the output electronic equipment, thus providing the icon display of the generating electronic equipment and the icon display of the output electronic equipment, and

a proceedings control unit for obtaining information for preparing the proceedings by using the contents of the presentation presented by the presentation unit,

the conference management server comprising:

an input/output unit for inputting presentation data presented by the presentation unit using the output electronic equipment, from the attendant electronic equipment, then outputting the presentation data to the output electronic equipment and preparing time information indicating when the presentation is outputted, and for inputting material data generated by the generating electronic equipment, then outputting the material data to the output electronic equipment and preparing time information indicating when the material data is outputted;

a conference management information preparation unit for preparing conference management information relating to the conference;

a storage unit for associating the presentation data presented by the output electronic equipment with the time information indicating when the presentation data is presented, generated by the input/output unit, and thus storing the presentation data and the time information, while associating the material data generated by the generating electronic equipment with the time information indicating when the material data is presented, generated by the input/output unit, and thus storing the material data and the time information, and for storing the conference management information prepared by the conference management information preparation unit; and

a proceedings data preparation unit for arranging the conference management information, the presentation data and the material data in accordance with the time information and thus preparing proceedings data.

3. (Previously Presented) The network conferencing system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the storage unit stores the format of the data generated by the generating electronic equipment, and

the proceedings data preparation unit arranges the data in accordance with the format stored in the storage unit.

4. (Previously Presented) The network conferencing system as claimed in claim 2, wherein a camera device for imaging the contents of the conference is further connected with the communication network, and

the storage unit associates image data and audio data picked up by the camera device with time information indicating when the image data and audio data are picked up by the camera device and thus storing the image data and audio data and the time information.

5. (Previously Presented) The network conferencing system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the proceedings data preparation unit prepares proceedings data for displaying presentation data and material data presented in the same time period, on the same screen.

6. (Previously Presented) The network conferencing system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the input/output unit inputs conference data generated at a chairman terminal having the proceedings control unit, of the attendant electronic equipment, and prepares time information indicating when the conference data is inputted, and

the storage unit associates the conference data with the time information and thus storing the conference data and the time information.

7. (Currently Amended) A proceedings preparation method for a network conferencing system having an output electronic equipment for presenting the contents of a presentation, a generating electronic equipment for generating the contents of the presentation to be presented by the output electronic equipment, a plurality of attendant electronic equipment, and a conference management server connected with the output electronic equipment and the attendant electronic equipment so as to transmit and receive information to and from the output electronic equipment and the attendant electronic equipment via a communication network,

each of the attendant electronic equipment comprising:

an information input/output unit for inputting and outputting information from and to the other attendant electronic equipment and the output electronic equipment via the communication network,

a presentation unit for presenting the contents of the presentation by using the output electronic equipment,

a presentation contents browsing unit for browsing the contents of the presentation presented by the presentation unit of the other attendant electronic equipment using the output electronic equipment,

an authentication unit for carrying out authentication of attendance of the other attendant electronic equipment at a conference,

an equipment management unit for managing the state of each electronic equipment connected to the communication network,

a display unit for displaying, as icons, the other attendant electronic equipment with their attendance authenticated by the authentication unit and the electronic equipment managed by the equipment management unit, wherein the display has a separate area for icon display of the generating electronic equipment and an area for icon display of the output electronic equipment, thus providing the icon display of the generating electronic equipment and the icon display of the output electronic equipment, and

a proceedings control unit for obtaining information for preparing the proceedings by using the contents of the presentation presented by the presentation unit, the method comprising the steps of:

during presentation by the presentation unit of the attendant electronic equipment, inputting presentation data presented by the presentation unit using the output electronic equipment, from the attendant electronic equipment, then outputting the presentation data to the output electronic equipment and preparing time information indicating when the presentation is outputted, while inputting material data generated by the generating electronic equipment, then outputting the material data to the output electronic equipment and preparing time information indicating when the material data is outputted;

preparing conference management information relating to the conference;

associating the presentation data presented by the output electronic equipment with the time information indicating when the presentation data is presented and thus storing the presentation data and the time information, while associating the material data

generated by the generating electronic equipment with the time information indicating when the material data is presented and thus storing the material data and the time information; and

arranging the conference management information, the presentation data and the material data in accordance with the time information and thus preparing proceedings data.

8. (Original) The proceedings preparation method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the format of the data generated by the generating electronic equipment is stored, and the data is arranged in accordance with the stored format.

9. (Original) The proceedings preparation method as claimed in claim 7, wherein a camera device for imaging the contents of the conference is further connected with the communication network,

image data and audio data picked up by the camera device are associated with time information indicating when the image data and audio data are picked up by the camera device, and the image data and audio data and the time information are thus stored, and

proceedings data is prepared using the image data and audio data.

10. (Original) The proceedings preparation method as claimed in claim 7, wherein proceedings data for displaying presentation data and material data presented in the same time period, on the same screen, is prepared.

11. (Previously Presented) The proceedings preparation method as claimed in claim 7, wherein conference data generated at a chairman terminal having the proceedings control unit, of the attendant electronic, is inputted, and time information indicating when the conference data is inputted is prepared, and

the conference data is associated with the time information, and the conference data and the time information are thus stored.

12. (Currently Amended) A conference management server connected with an output electronic equipment for presenting the contents of a presentation, a generating electronic equipment for generating the contents of the presentation to be presented by the output electronic equipment, and a plurality of attendant electronic equipment via a communication network,

each of the attendant electronic equipment comprising:

an information input/output unit for inputting and outputting information from and to the other attendant electronic equipment and the output electronic equipment via the communication network,

a presentation unit for presenting the contents of the presentation by using the output electronic equipment,

a presentation contents browsing unit for browsing the contents of the presentation presented by the presentation unit of the other attendant electronic equipment using the output electronic equipment,

an authentication unit for carrying out authentication of attendance of the other attendant electronic equipment at a conference,

an equipment management unit for managing the state of each electronic equipment connected to the communication network,

a display unit for displaying, as icons, the other attendant electronic equipment with their attendance authenticated by the authentication unit and the electronic equipment managed by the equipment management unit, wherein the display unit has a separate area for icon display of the generating electronic equipment and an area for icon display of the output electronic equipment, thus providing the icon display of the generating electronic equipment and the icon display of the output electronic equipment, and

a proceedings control unit for obtaining information for preparing the proceedings by using the contents of the presentation presented by the presentation unit,

the conference management server comprising:

an input/output unit for inputting presentation data presented by the presentation unit using the output electronic equipment, from the attendant electronic equipment, then outputting the presentation data to the output electronic equipment and preparing time

information indicating when the presentation is outputted, and for inputting material data generated by the generating electronic equipment, then outputting the material data to the output electronic equipment and preparing time information indicating when the material data is outputted;

a conference management information preparation unit for preparing conference management information relating to the conference;

a storage unit for associating the presentation data presented by the output electronic equipment with the time information indicating when the presentation data is presented, generated by the input/output unit, and thus storing the presentation data and the time information, while associating the material data generated by the generating electronic equipment with the time information indicating when the material data is presented, generated by the input/output unit, and thus storing the material data and the time information, and for storing the conference management information prepared by the conference management information preparation unit, and

a proceedings data preparation unit for arranging the conference management information, the presentation data and the material data in accordance with the time information and thus preparing proceedings data.

13. (Previously Presented) The conference management server as claimed in claim 12, wherein the storage unit stores the format of the data generated by the generating electronic equipment, and

the proceedings data preparation unit arranges the data in accordance with the format stored in the storage unit.

14. (Previously Presented) The conference management server as claimed in claim 12, wherein a camera device for imaging the contents of the conference is further connected with the communication network, and

the storage unit associates image data and audio data picked up by the camera device with time information indicating when the image data and audio data are picked up by the camera device and thus storing the image data and audio data and the time information.

15. (Previously Presented) The conference management server as claimed in claim 12, wherein the proceedings data preparation unit prepares proceedings data for displaying presentation data and material data presented in the same time period, on the same screen.

16. (Previously Presented) The conference management server as claimed in claim 12, wherein the input/output unit inputs conference data generated at a chairman terminal having the proceedings control unit, of the attendant electronic equipment, and prepares time information indicating when the conference data is inputted, and

the storage unit associates the conference data with the time information and thus storing the conference data and the time information.

17. (Currently Amended) A proceedings preparation method for a conference management server connected with an output electronic equipment for presenting the contents of a presentation, a generating electronic equipment for generating the contents of the presentation to be presented by the output electronic equipment, and a plurality of attendant electronic equipment via a communication network,

each of the attendant electronic equipment comprising:

an information input/output unit for inputting and outputting information from and to the other attendant electronic equipment and the output electronic equipment via the communication network,

a presentation unit for presenting the contents of the presentation by using the output electronic equipment,

a presentation contents browsing unit for browsing the contents of presentation presented by the presentation unit of the other attendant electronic equipment using the output electronic equipment,

an authentication unit for carrying out authentication of attendance of the other attendant electronic equipment at a conference,

an equipment management unit for managing the state of each electronic equipment connected to the communication network,

a display unit for displaying, as icons, the other attendant electronic equipment with their attendance authenticated by the authentication unit and the electronic equipment managed by the equipment management unit, wherein the display has a separate area for icon display of the generating electronic equipment and an area for icon display of the output electronic equipment, thus providing the icon display of the generating electronic equipment and the icon display of the output electronic equipment, and

a proceedings control unit for obtaining information for preparing the proceedings by using the contents of the presentation presented by the presentation unit, the method comprising the steps of:

during presentation by the presentation unit of the attendant electronic equipment, inputting presentation data presented by the presentation unit using the output electronic equipment, from the attendant electronic equipment, then outputting the presentation data to the output electronic equipment and preparing time information indicating when the presentation is outputted, while inputting material data generated by the generating electronic equipment, then outputting the material data to the output electronic equipment and preparing time information indicating when the material data is outputted;

preparing conference management information relating to the conference;

associating the presentation data presented by the output electronic equipment with the time information indicating when the presentation data is presented and thus storing the presentation data and the time information, while associating the material data generated by the generating electronic equipment with the time information indicating when the material data is presented and thus storing the material data and the time information; and

arranging the conference management information, the presentation data and the material data in accordance with the time information and thus preparing proceedings data.

18. (Original) The proceedings preparation method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the format of the data generated by the generating electronic equipment is stored, and

the data is arranged in accordance with the stored format.

19. (Original) The proceedings preparation method as claimed in claim 17, wherein a camera device for imaging the contents of the conference is further connected with the communication network,

image data and audio data picked up by the camera device are associated with time information indicating when the image data and audio data are picked up by the camera device, and the image data and audio data and the time information are thus stored, and

proceedings data is prepared using the image data and audio data.

20. (Original) The proceedings preparation method as claimed in claim 17, wherein proceedings data for displaying presentation data and material data presented in the same time period, on the same screen, is prepared.

21. (Previously Presented) The proceedings preparation method as claimed in claim 17, wherein conference data generated at a chairman terminal having the proceedings control unit, of the attendant electronic equipment, is inputted,

time information indicating when the conference data is inputted is prepared, and

the conference data is associated with the time information, and the conference data and the time information are thus stored.